THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Regarding Hike in Prices by Polyster Staple Fibre Manufacturers

4164. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Polyester Staple Fibre Manufacturers have taken a decision to hike in the prices of their end product by another Rs. 5 per Kg.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any protest against the decision of the PSF Units, if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Since there is no price control in the petrochemical sector, market forces and demand-supply determine the prices.

Cases with CBI regarding payment of subsidy to Fertilizer Units

4165. SHRI MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has detected certain cases where subsidy have been paid, although the unit did not exist or had not produced fertilizer for which subsidy was paid by F. I. C. C.;

(b) what are the details of these cases, when did they occur and whether responsibility of concerned bureaucrats have been fixed; and

(c) what steps have been taken to revamp F. I. C. C. and remove Director (Cost) and the person responsibile for increase in subsidy on account of negligence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) During the year 1988, CBI registered a case against M/s. Punjab Phosphates Pvt. Ltd., Chheratah, Amritsar and 33 other persons for investigation into the payment to the said firm of subsidy amounting to Rs. 3,38,45,939 for the period from Dec., 1980 to April, 1987 on the basis of bogus documents.

The CBI report which has since been finalised, has recommended prosecution of two private firms viz. M/s. Punjab Fertilizer & Pesticide Industries and M/s. Punjab Phosphates Pvt. Ltd. of Chheratah, Amritsar and 22 others including 17 public servants. It has also recommended initiation of regular departmental action against 9 other officials.

(c) It has been decided to conduct a study of the working of the Office of FICC through a reputed professional institute.

Expenditure on Advertisement by Multinational Drug Companies

4166. SHRI KRISHANL LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that multinationals, producing drugs, spend a lot on the advertisement of their products;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is publicity grant given to IDPL and other organizations to publicise their products;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that there is much less sales of products from public sector enterprises as compared to private sector; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to issue guidelines for both public sector undertakings and private sector companies in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) In the case of drugs under price control, post-manufacturing expenses, which include expenditure on promotional expenses, are allowed while fixing the prices as provided for in DPCO, 1987 and as such there is no separate ceiling on expenditure on advertisement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Sales volumes of any company is dependent on various commercial factors as prevailing from time to time.

Power Cooling Towers in Sindri Unit of FCI LTD.

4167. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: